WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A niobium powder for capacitors, comprising niobium and antimony.

2. The niobium powder for capacitors as claimed in claim 1, wherein a content of antimony is from about 0.1 to about 10 mol%.

3. The niobium powder for capacitors as claimed in claim 1, wherein an average particle size of the powder is from about 0.2 μm to less than about 5 μm.

4. The niobium powder for capacitors as claimed in claim 2, wherein an average particle size of the powder is from about 0.2 μm to less than about 5 μm.

5. A sintered body comprising sintered niobium powder, wherein the niobium powder is described in claim 1.

6. A sintered body comprising sintered niobium powder, wherein the niobium powder is described in claim 2.

7. The sintered body as claimed in claim 5, which has a specific leakage current value of about 400 pA/(μF · V) or less.

8. The sintered body as claimed in claim 6, which has a specific leakage current value of about 400 pA/(μF · V) or less.

9. A capacitor comprising the sintered body described in claim 7, as one electrode, a dielectric material formed on the surface thereof, and a second electrode.

10. A capacitor comprising the sintered body described in claim 8, as one electrode, a dielectric material formed on the surface thereof, and a second

electrode.

11. The capacitor as claimed in claim 9, wherein the dielectric material comprises niobium oxide.

12. The capacitor as claimed in claim 10, wherein the dielectric material comprises niobium oxide.

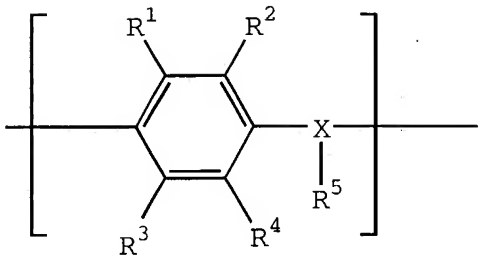
13. The capacitor as claimed in claim 11, wherein the niobium oxide is formed by electrolytic oxidation.

14. The capacitor as claimed in claim 12, wherein the niobium oxide is formed by electrolytic oxidation.

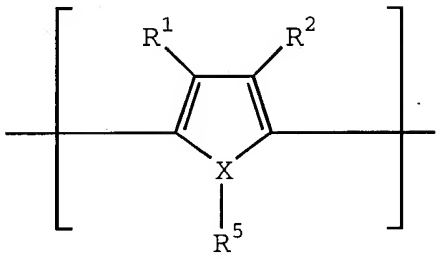
15. The capacitor as claimed in claim 9, wherein the second electrode is at least one material selected from the group consisting of an electrolytic solution, an organic semiconductor and an inorganic semiconductor.

16. The capacitor as claimed in claim 10, wherein the second electrode is at least one material selected from the group consisting of an electrolytic solution, an organic semiconductor and an inorganic semiconductor.

17. The capacitor as claimed in claim 9, wherein the second electrode is at least one organic semiconductor selected from the group consisting of an organic semiconductor comprising a benzopyrroline tetramer and chloranile, an organic semiconductor mainly comprising tetrathiotetracene, an organic semiconductor mainly comprising tetracyanoquinodimethane, and an organic semiconductor mainly comprising an electrically conducting polymer obtained by doping a dopant into a polymer comprising two or more repeating units represented by formula (1) or (2):



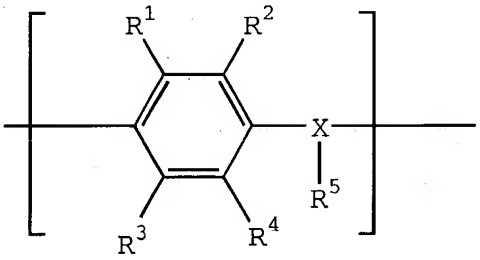
(1)



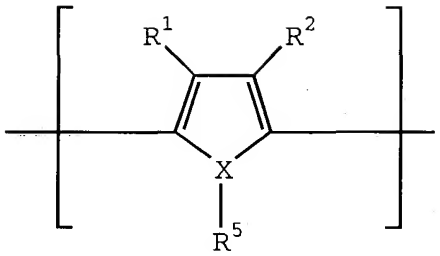
(2)

wherein R^1 to R^4, which may be the same or different, each represents hydrogen, an alkyl group having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms or an alkoxy group having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, X represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or a nitrogen atom, R^5 is present only when X is a nitrogen atom and represents hydrogen or an alkyl group having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, and R^1 and R^2, or R^3 and R^4 may be combined with each other to form a ring.

18. The capacitor as claimed in claim 10, wherein the second electrode is at least one organic semiconductor selected from the group consisting of an organic semiconductor comprising a benzopyrroline tetramer and chloranile, an organic semiconductor mainly comprising tetrathiotetracene, an organic semiconductor mainly comprising tetracyanoquinodimethane, and an organic semiconductor mainly comprising an electrically conducting polymer obtained by doping a dopant into a polymer comprising two or more repeating units represented by formula (1) or (2):



(1)



(2)

wherein R^1 to R^4, which may be the same or different, each represents hydrogen, an alkyl group having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms or an alkoxy group having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, X represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or a nitrogen atom, R^5 is present only when X is a nitrogen atom and represents hydrogen or an alkyl group having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, and R^1 and R^2, or R^3 and R^4 may be combined with each other to form a ring.

19. The capacitor as claimed in claim 15, wherein the organic semiconductor is at least one member selected from the group consisting of polypyrrole, polythiophene and substitution derivatives thereof.

20. The capacitor as claimed in claim 16, wherein the organic semiconductor is at least one member selected from the group consisting of polypyrrole, polythiophene and substitution derivatives thereof.